

Trends in Consolidated Planning

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What is a Consolidated Plan and why should I care?

- **The Consolidated Plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order for states and cities to receive federal housing and community development funding.**
- **Consolidated Plans → \$\$\$ for investment in communities**
- **Statewide in 2004, \$120,000,000 will be available to communities for housing and community development activities.**

Does my community receive funding?

Please insert Excel chart here.

Consolidated Plan v. Comprehensive Plan

- **Consolidated Plan:**
 - Identification of needs
 - Plan for spending money
 - Housing market analysis
 - Evaluation component
 - Written to respond to federal regulations
- **Comprehensive Plan:**
 - A vision, a guide
 - Land use plan
 - Housing element?
 - Pretty

What the Con Plan can do that the Comp Plan may not

- **Identify specific housing needs**
- **Identify housing needs of special population groups**
- **Identify fair housing impediments**
- **Engage nonprofits, social service and housing providers**
- **Force prioritization of needs through funding allocation process**

How to Make the Best Use of the Consolidated Plan

- **Identify overlaps with other planning processes and potential economies of scale**
- **Decide what you want to know and work in HUD's requirements**
- **Minimize parallel public outreach**
- **Incorporate a housing plan that addresses the questions in your community**
- **Focus more on planning for your community than writing to regulations**

Innovations in Consolidated Planning

- **Westchester Urban County Plan (NY) -- Replaces a 300 page document with a visual plan**
- **California – Integration with the Housing Element**
- **State of Indiana – telephone and Internet citizen surveys**
- **HUD Pilot Programs**

The Con Plan as a Regional Planning Tool

- **Consolidated Planning can be used to:**
 - **Identify regional “fair share” concerns**
 - **Identify collective housing and community needs**
 - **Establish a platform from which to begin conversations about meeting housing and community development needs together**

